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**GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.****Facsimile Cover Sheet**

To:	Corrected Filing Receipt	From:	Kevin W. Guyan
	Branch of USPTO		
Fax:	1-571-273-8300	02-27-2008	U.S. Serial No. 10/567,539
Your Ref:	Confirmation 9308	Our Ref:	4441-75877
Pages (including cover sheet) 23	Original Will <input type="checkbox"/>	Will Not <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Follow	

☐ Urgent☐ For Review☐ Please Reply

IF THIS FACSIMILE IS RECEIVED INCOMPLETE, PLEASE CONTACT Tina Kiselka AT (312) 360-0080.

● **Comments:** A Request for Corrected Filing Receipt was filed on August 1, 2007 and we have not received any communication nor is the Corrected Filing Receipt showing up as a document on the PTO website.

Attached is a Status Inquiry.

Thank you.

The documents accompanying this facsimile transmission contain information that may be confidential or privileged and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. The information is intended to be for the use of the individual or entity named on this transmission sheet. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the contents of this information is without authorization and is prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please notify us by collect telephone immediately so that we can arrange for the retrieval of the original documents at no cost to you.

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PATENT APPLICATION

4441.75877

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application of

Applicant: Wilhelm Ardes

Serial No.: 10/567,539

Conf. No.: 9308

Filed: February 7, 2006

For: FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL  
COMBUSTION ENGINE

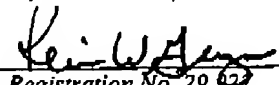
Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

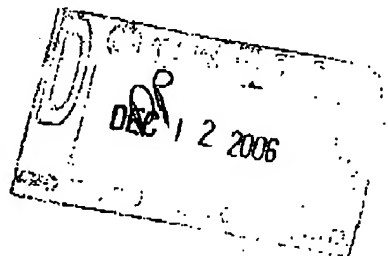
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with  
the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail  
in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop ASSIGNMENT  
RECORDATION SERVICES, Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this  
date.

December 8, 2006

Date

  
Registration No. 29,927  
Attorney for Applicants

Mail Stop Assignment Recordation Services  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a communication regarding the above-identified application.

(X) Form PTO-1595 (in duplicate) with a check for \$40.00.

(X) Executed Assignment.

(X) If a Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for response is required to make the attached response timely and does not separately accompany this transmittal, Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely.

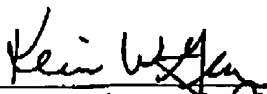
(X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS &amp; CRAIN, LTD.

Customer No. 24978.  
December 8, 2006  
300 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Tel: (312) 360-0080

By:



Kevin W. Givens Reg No. 29,927

4441-75877

## PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Wilhelm Ardes

Serial No.: 10/567,539

Conf. No.: 9308

Filed: 2/7/2006

For: FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL....

Art Unit: 3653

)  
) I hereby certify that this paper is being faxed to the U.S.  
) Patent & Trademark Office, on this date.

February 27, 2008

Date

Registration No. 29,927

Attorney for Applicant(s)

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS INQUIRY

Dear Sir:

After speaking with Spencer from the PTO Patent Application Process Dept., he suggested that I fax the pertinent documentation to the PTO to get this issue resolved and obtain a revised Filing Receipt.

Attached is a copy of:

Request for Corrected Filing Receipt (dated 8/1/2007);

Filing Receipt;

Notice of Publication;

Assignment transmittal, Assignment recordation cover sheet, executed Assignment;

Preliminary Amendment filed with the application on February 7, 2007; and

Executed Declaration.

Since these were all typographical errors made by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, no fees are required.

However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

February 27, 2008

300 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 360-0080  
Customer No. 24978

Respectfully submitted,  
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:

  
Kevin W. Guynn, Reg. No. 29,927

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FEB 27 2008

COPY FILE COPY

In re Patent of

Wilhelm Ardes

FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

Serial No.: 10/567,539

Filed: February 7, 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

KWG:keh

4441.75877

August 1, 2007

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Enclosed is a Request for Corrected Filing Receipt (in duplicate); Certificate of First Class  
Mail; postcard

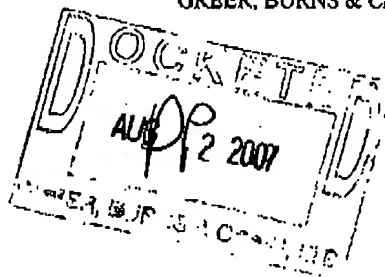
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Commissioner for Patents

Please acknowledge receipt of the above-identified documents by applying the Patent and  
Trademark Office receipt hereto and mailing this card.

Respectfully,

GREER, BURNS &amp; CRAIN, LTD.



In re Patent of

Wilhelm Ardes

FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

Serial No.: 10/567,539

Filed: February 7, 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

KWG:keh

4441.75877

August 1, 2007

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Enclosed is a Request for Corrected Filing Receipt (in duplicate); Certificate of First Class  
Mail; postcard

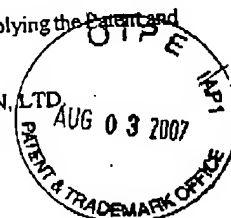
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Commissioner for Patents

Please acknowledge receipt of the above-identified documents by applying the Patent and  
Trademark Office receipt hereto and mailing this card.

Respectfully,

GREER, BURNS &amp; CRAIN, LTD.



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FEB 27 2008

PATENT APPLICATION

4441-75877

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**FILE COPY**

Applicant: Wilhelm Ardes

Serial No.: 10/567,539

Conf. No.: 9308

Filed: 2/7/2006

For: FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL....

Art Unit: 3653

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

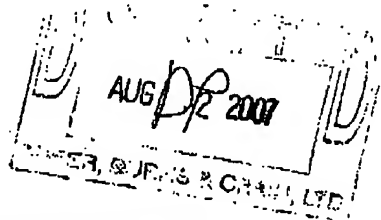
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

8-1-2007

Date

Registration No. 29,927

Attorney for Applicant(s)

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Dear Sir:

Please correct the attached Filing Receipt (sent on 3/13/2007) and Notice of Publication (Publication No. US-2007-0125689-A1, Publication Date 06/07/2007) for the following reasons:

1. As shown on the attached Assignment Recordation Transmittal along with the Assignment, the "Assignee" should be:

HENGST GMBH & CO. KG (The Filing receipt shows *HENGST GMBH & CO. KO*);

Business Address on all filed documents state that the Assignee is located in Münster, Germany (the *ü* can be translated as "ue");

Also, the business address stated in the PTO documents, has the incorrect country listed as *German Democratic Republic*. This should be corrected to Münster, Germany (or Muenster, Germany).

2. The title of this application was changed from "LIQUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE" to - FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE-- by way of a Preliminary Amendment (copy attached); and also the Declaration and the Assignment reflect the title change prior to filing with the U.S. Patent Office.

Since these are all typographical errors made by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, no fees are required.

However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

August 1, 2007  
300 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 360-0080  
Customer No. 24978

Respectfully submitted,  
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:

  
Kevin W. Guyon, Reg. No. 29,927



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/567,539	01/05/2007	3653	1080	09796503-0167 441-75877	21	2

CONFIRMATION NO. 9308

 24978  
 GREER, BURNS & CRAIN  
 300 S WACKER DR  
 25TH FLOOR  
 CHICAGO, IL 60608

## FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000022679460\*

Date Mailed: 03/13/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

Wilhelm Ardes, Ascheberg, GERMANY;

## Assignment For Published Patent Application

HENGST GMBH &amp; CO. KO, Munster, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 24978.

## Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/EP04/08840 08/08/2004

## Foreign Applications

GERMANY 203 12 318.2 08/09/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 02/27/2007

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/567,539**

Projected Publication Date: 08/07/2007

Non-Publication Request: No

2007 MAR 19 AM 9:51



**Early Publication Request:** No

**Title**

Liquid filter for an internal combustion engine

**Preliminary Class**

210

**PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An International (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process simplifies the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but does not result in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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**LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER  
Title 35, United States Code, Section 184  
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted

under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

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#### **NOT GRANTED**

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 National Bureau of Patents and Trademarks  
 Patent and Trademark Office

COPY

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
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10/567,539

01/05/2007

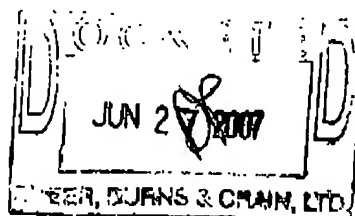
Wilhelm Ardes

09798503-0167

441-75877

CONFIRMATION NO. 9308

24978

 GREER, BURNS & CRAIN  
 300 S WACKER DR  
 25TH FLOOR  
 CHICAGO, IL 60606


COPY

 GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD  
 2007 JUN 18 PM 12:51
**Title:** Liquid filter for an internal combustion engine**Publication No.** US-2007-0125689-A1**Publication Date:** 06/07/2007**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION**

The above-identified application will be electronically published as a patent application publication pursuant to 37 CFR 1.211, et seq. The patent application publication number and publication date are set forth above.

The publication may be accessed through the USPTO's publicly available Searchable Databases via the Internet at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov). The direct link to access the publication is currently <http://www.uspto.gov/patft/>.

The publication process established by the Office does not provide for mailing a copy of the publication to applicant. A copy of the publication may be obtained from the Office upon payment of the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.19(a)(1). Orders for copies of patent application publications are handled by the USPTO's Office of Public Records. The Office of Public Records can be reached by telephone at (703) 308-9726 or (800) 972-6382, by facsimile at (703) 305-8759, by mail addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Office of Public Records, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or via the Internet.

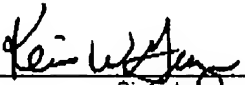
In addition, information on the status of the application, including the mailing date of Office actions and the dates of receipt of correspondence filed in the Office, may also be accessed via the Internet through the Patent Electronic Business Center at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) using the public side of the Patent Application Information and Retrieval (PAIR) system. The direct link to access this status information is currently <http://pair.uspto.gov/>. Prior to publication, such status information is confidential and may only be obtained by applicant using the private side of PAIR.

Further assistance in electronically accessing the publication, or about PAIR, is available by calling the Patent Electronic Business Center at 703-305-3028.

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 Pre-Grant Publication Division, 703-605-4283

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FORM PTO-1595 (Rev. 8-93) OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4/94)		RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET PATENTS ONLY		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office	
To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.					
1. Name of conveying party:  Wilhelm Ardes  Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? ( ) Yes (X) No		2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)  Name: <u>Henast GmbH &amp; Co. KG</u>  Internal Address: _____  Street Address: <u>Nienkamp 53-85</u> <u>48147 Münster, Germany</u>  City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____  Additional name(s) & address(es) attached: ( ) Yes (X) No			
3. Nature of conveyance:  (X) Assignment ( ) Merger ( ) Security Agreement ( ) Change of Name ( ) Other _____  Execution Date: February 10, 2006					
4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):  If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: February 7, 2006  A. Patent Application No.(s)  10/567,539  B. Patent No.(s)  _____  Additional numbers attached? ( ) Yes (X) No					
5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  Name: <u>Kevin W. Gynn</u> Internal Address: <u>Greer, Burns &amp; Crain, Ltd.</u> <u>300 South Wacker Drive</u> <u>Suite 2500</u> <u>Chicago, Illinois 60606</u>  Street Address: _____  City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____  Additional name(s) & address(es) attached: ( ) Yes (X) No		6. Total number of applications and patents involved: <u>1</u>  7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) ..... \$ 40.00  (X) Enclosed  (X) Authorized to be charged to deposit account only in the event proper payment is not enclosed.  8. Deposit account number:  07-2069  (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)			
DO NOT USE THIS SPACE					
9. Statement and signature. <i>To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.</i>  <u>Kevin W. Gynn</u> Name of Person Signing  <u></u> Signature  <u>December 8, 2006</u> Date  Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: <u>2</u>  [4441.75877]					

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Docket No. 4441-75877

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Wilhelm Ardes, residing at Albert-Koch-Str.21 B., 59387 Ascheberg, Germany and a citizen of Germany hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNOR, has invented and owns a certain invention entitled: "FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE" for which application for a Letters Patent of the United States was filed on 02-07-06 and assigned Serial No. 10/567,539.

WHEREAS, Hengst GmbH & Co. KG, a company having a business at Nienkamp 53-85, 48147 Münster, Germany, hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire interest in, to and under said invention and the United States Letters Patent to be obtained therefor:

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that in consideration of the payment by ASSIGNEE TO ASSIGNOR of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and for other good and valuable consideration, ASSIGNOR hereby sells, assigns and transfers to ASSIGNEE the full and exclusive right, title and interest to said invention and all Letters Patent of the United States to be obtained therefor on said application or any continuation, division, renewal, substitute or reissue thereof for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted.

ASSIGNOR also assigns all of its right, title and interest in and to said invention in all foreign countries, and all applications for Letters Patent which may evolve therefrom, including the right to claim International Convention priority.

ASSIGNOR hereby covenants that no assignment, sale, agreement or encumbrance has been or will be made or entered into which would conflict with this assignment and sale.

ASSIGNOR further covenants that ASSIGNEE will, upon its request, be provided promptly with all pertinent facts and documents relating to said application, said invention and said Letters Patent as may be known and accessible to ASSIGNOR and ASSIGNOR will testify as to the same in any interference or litigation related thereto and will promptly execute and deliver to ASSIGNEE or its legal representative any and all papers, instruments or affidavits required to apply for, obtain, maintain and enforce said application, said invention and said Letters Patent which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes hereof.

10 February 2006  
Date

Wilhelm Ardes  
Wilhelm Ardes

12018180

- 1 -

COPY

BOX PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY-CHAPTER II

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COPY

APPLICANT: Wilhelm Ardes

ATTORNEYS DOCKET NO.: 09796503-0167

SERIAL NO:

GROUP ART UNIT:

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP2004/00840

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 6 August 2004

INVENTION: "LIQUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION  
ENGINE"

Mail Stop - PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

This Preliminary Amendment is being made to conform the application to U.S. style and practice. No new matter is introduced. Amendments to the "Title" is made at page 2 of this document, in the "Specification" are noted at page 3 of this paper and Amendments to the "Claims" begin at page 4 of this paper.

**IN THE TITLE:**

Amend the Title of the application as follows:

**FLUID [LIQUID] FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace English translation specification with the enclosed substitute specification which includes section headings.



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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Claims 1-14 CANCELLED.**

Cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice and replace them with new claims 15-35 as follows:

15. (New) A fluid filter used with an associated apparatus having a companion mounting flange, comprising:

a filter socket having a mounting flange that can, in a sealing manner, be connected to the companion flange on the associated apparatus to form a flange connection,

at least one fluid duct for supplying fluid to be filtered from the apparatus to the fluid filter and one fluid duct for discharging filtered fluid from the filter to the apparatus extending through said flange connection,

a sealing plate arranged to close off at least one section of at least one of said fluid ducts, said sealing plate having at least one through opening that is sealed against the companion flange and being arranged flush with an apparatus-side fluid duct,

a surface area of said sealing plate, as seen on a plane of said flange connection, being smaller than a surface area of said mounting flange, and

said sealing plate being inserted in said filter socket in a sealing manner and forming a part of said filter socket.

16. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein said fluid filter comprises an oil or fuel filter for an internal combustion engine.

17. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein at least two separate sealing plates are provided, one sealing plate being allocated to each of said at least two fluid ducts extending through said flange connection.

18. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein, as a third fluid duct, an unpressurized drain duct arranged to drain the fluid filter upon replacement of a filter element of the filter extends through said flange connection.

19. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 18, wherein at least three separate sealing plates are provided, one sealing plate being allocated to each of said at least three fluid ducts extending through said flange connection.

20. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein said filter socket and said sealing plate are formed as plastic parts and said sealing plate is one of welded and glued to said filter socket.

21. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 20, wherein said sealing plate, at its through opening, is provided with a pipe socket having a radially acting sealing ring, wherein said pipe socket projects towards the companion flange and can be inserted in an apparatus-side fluid duct.

22. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein said filter socket and said sealing plate are formed as parts made of one of plastic and metal, and a sealing ring is inserted between said filter socket and said sealing plate.

23. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 22, wherein said sealing ring acts radially.

24. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 23, wherein said radially acting sealing rings are standard O-rings.

25. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 22, wherein said sealing ring acts axially.

26. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 22, wherein said sealing plate, at its through opening, is provided with an axially acting sealing ring surrounding said through opening and projecting in a direction of the companion flange.

27. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 15, wherein a peripheral axially acting seal is provided in parallel to an outer contour of said mounting flange and arranged therein, said seal enclosing said through opening.

28. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 27, wherein said seal simultaneously seals the fluid duct in the flange connection that is not extending through said through opening in said sealing plate.

29. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 27, wherein the fluid duct not extending through said through opening in said sealing plate is separately sealed by its own sealing means and said seal encloses the fluid duct in said flange connection not extending through said through opening in said sealing plate.

30. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 26, wherein said axially acting seal is a sectional seal.

31. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 20, wherein said plastic is polyamide and said filter socket and said sealing plate are produced as injection-molded parts.

32. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 22, wherein said metal is one of aluminum and magnesium and said filter socket and said sealing plate are produced as die casting parts.

33. (New) An oil or fuel filter for an internal combustion engine, wherein the engine has a companion mounting flange, said filter comprising:

a filter socket with a mounting flange that can, in a sealing manner, be connected to the companion flange to form a flange connection,

at least one fluid duct for supplying fluid to be filtered from the engine to the fluid filter, one fluid duct for discharging filtered fluid from the filter to the engine, and a third fluid duct, being an unpressurized drain duct for draining the fluid filter upon replacement of a filter element, extending through said flange connection,

a sealing plate arranged to close off at least one section of at least one of said fluid ducts, said sealing plate having at least one through opening that is sealed against the companion flange and being arranged flush with an engine-side fluid duct,

a surface area of said sealing plate, as seen on a plane of said flange connection, being smaller than a surface area of said mounting flange, and

said sealing plate being inserted in said filter socket in a sealing manner and forming a part of said filter socket.

34. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 33, wherein three separate sealing plates are provided, wherein one sealing plate being allocated to said at least three fluid ducts extending through said flange connection.

35. (New) A fluid filter according to claim 34, wherein said filter socket and said sealing plate are parts made of plastic or of metal and said sealing plates are inserted into said filter socket and fixed therein, with one of a peripheral, radially and axially acting sealing ring being placed intermediate the filter socket and each of said sealing plates.

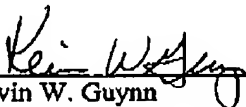
**REMARKS**

The new claims are being presented to place the application into standard U.S. format.

No new matter has been added.

Applicant looks forward to early and favorable consideration of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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I hereby certify that this document and any being referred to as attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail EV 343258705US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop - PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

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**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare:

That my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

That I verily believe I am the original and first and inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**"FLUID FILTER FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE"**

the specification of which (check one)

☐ is attached hereto.  
☒ was filed on 02/07/2006 as  
☒ Application Serial No. 10/567,539  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicable)

That I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

That I acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to be material to patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

That I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Claimed

DE 203 12 318.2

August 9, 2003

That I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119 and/or §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior United States Application(s)

_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)
_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)
_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)

That all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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I hereby appoint Kevin W. Gynn (Reg. 29,927), following attorneys and agents listed under Customer No. 24978, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and request that all correspondence and telephone calls in respect to this application be directed to Kevin W. Gynn at GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD., Suite 2500, 300 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606, Telephone No. (312) 360-0080.

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